

# Outbreak Response Protocols: Pre K-12

Guidance for COVID-19 outbreak response in Pre K-12

Version 4.0-Update June 16, 2021

RHODE  
ISLAND

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# Summary of Changes to the Playbook



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Most Recent Update is Version  
4.0 on June 15, 2021

# Summary of Changes to the Playbook

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- Version 1.1 (September 14, 2020)
  - Clarification that household contacts of a probable case must quarantine pending test results, but school contacts do not need to quarantine pending test results
- Version 1.2 (October 1, 2020)
  - Clarification that you need a negative PCR test (not just a negative rapid/antigen test) to return to school if meets definitions of probable case
  - Fever and chills were split into two symptoms instead of one in the definition of a probable case

# Summary of Changes to the Playbook

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- Version 1.3 (October 21, 2020)
  - Explanation of infectious period and close contacts
  - Overview of case investigation/contact tracing process
    - What schools should expect
    - What documents schools should have on hand
  - Frequently asked questions
    - Travelers
    - School portal
    - Testing
    - Quarantine

# Summary of Changes to the Playbook

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- Version 1.4 (November 19, 2020)
  - Clarifying isolation and quarantine
  - Frequently asked questions
    - Questions about close contacts in schools
    - Can I test out of quarantine?
    - Household member 24-day quarantine
    - End of quarantine testing
    - What is the EdOC?

# Summary of Changes to the Playbook

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- Version 2.0 (January 6, 2021)
  - Updated quarantine guidance
  - Recommending testing for all close contacts
  - Fever and chills -- one symptom
  - Clarification on travel guidance
  - No more probable case reporting



# Summary of Changes to the Playbook

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- Version 2.1 (February 15, 2021)
  - Clarification of isolation for asymptomatic individual who develops symptoms
  - Clarification of isolating within the household
  - Quarantine for bus contacts
  - Guidance and policies for winter sports
  - Guidance if positive in the last 90 days
  - Guidance if symptomatic within 90 days of testing positive
  - Updated international travel quarantine guidance
  - Additions to Travel and Quarantine FAQs

# Summary of Changes to the Playbook

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- Version 2.2 (March 11, 2021)
  - Addition of Guidance regarding Quarantine Exemption After Vaccination for COVID-19
  - Updates to Domestic Travel Quarantine Guidance
  - COVID-19 Vaccination FAQs

# Summary of Changes to the Playbook

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Version 3.0 (April 14, 2021)

- Re-ordered content so that each section includes all the slides for that topic (including FAQs)
- Added a Table of Contents with hyperlinks for each section
- New and updated slides are flagged with a red box
- Glossary at the end
- Probable Case FAQ
  - Who needs to quarantine?
  - What to do if a probable case refuses to get tested?
- Graphics for calculating quarantine
- Allergy information
- Close contacts in sports

# Summary of Changes to the Playbook

NEW

## Version 4.0 (June 16, 2021)

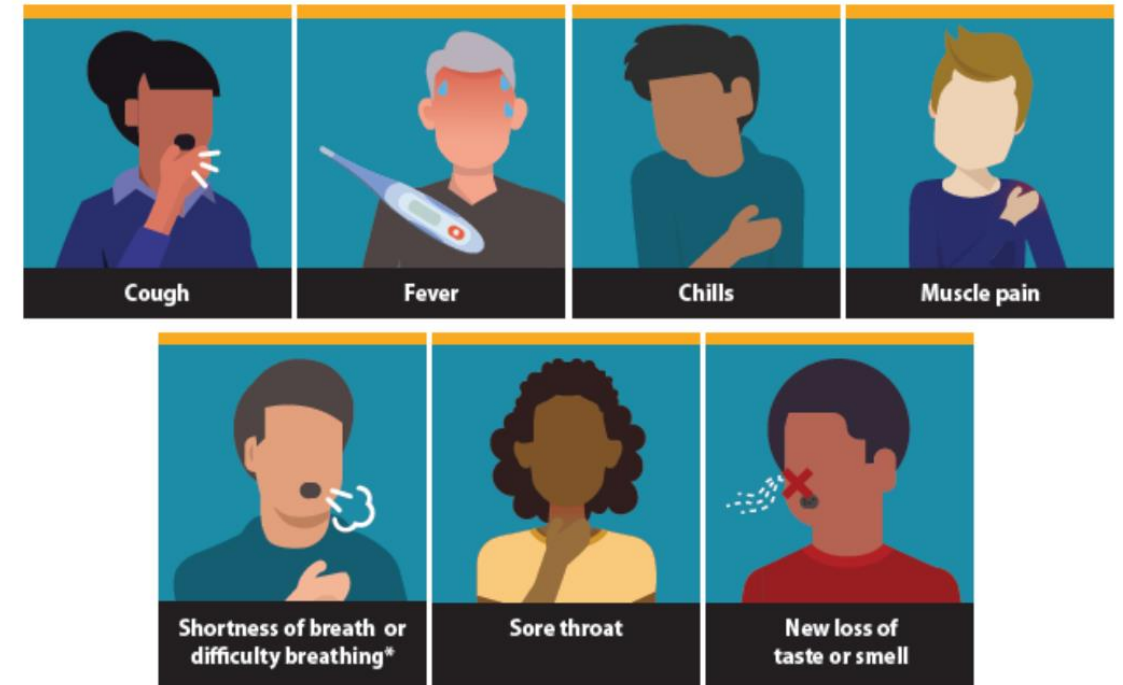
- Change in testing protocol: confirming an asymptomatic antigen test

# **Symptoms of COVID-19 and Probable Case Definition**

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# Symptoms of COVID-19

- Fever or Chills
- Cough (new)
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose (new)
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea



# Not All Symptoms of COVID-19 Make Someone a Probable Case

Any ONE  
symptom:  
PROBABLE

- Cough (new)
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell

Any TWO  
symptoms:  
PROBABLE

- Fever or Chills
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Sore throat
- Fatigue
- Congestion or runny nose (new)
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

# Probable Case of COVID-19

CDC defines a probable case as an individual who meets the following criteria:

One of the following symptoms:

- ☐ Cough (new)
- ☐ Shortness of breath
- ☐ Difficulty breathing
- ☐ New loss of taste or smell

Two of the following symptoms:

- ☐ Fever or chills
- ☐ Nausea or Vomiting
- ☐ Diarrhea
- ☐ Fatigue
- ☐ Congestion or runny nose (new)

Probable Cases No Longer Need to Be Reported to RIDOH

Any student who meets the probable case definition should notify RIDOH by reporting through the RIDOH School Portal. The student should be isolated and arrangements should be made for pickup. The parent/guardian should be given the K12 Call Center Number and encouraged to schedule a test.



# Probable Case FAQs

Updated

## Who needs to quarantine if there is a probable case?

- **Unvaccinated** household contacts must quarantine until the results of the COVID-19 for the probable case are known.
- School contacts do not need to quarantine pending the COVID-19 test results for the probable case.

## What do I do if a probable case refuses to get tested?

- If the probable case refuses to get tested, the individual should be considered the same as a positive case of COVID-19 and
  - The probable individual should isolate for 10 days;
  - The household contacts should quarantine; and
  - School contacts should be tested upon learning that they are a close contact; get tested again five to 10 days after the close contact exposure; but do not need to quarantine.

# When to Seek Emergency Care

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# When to Call for Emergency Care

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A person with the following symptoms needs emergency medical attention.

Call 911 and notify the operator that you are seeking care for someone who may have COVID-19.

- ☐ Difficulty breathing
- ☐ Persistent pain or pressure in chest
- ☐ New confusion
- ☐ Inability to wake or stay awake
- ☐ Bluish lips or face

\*This list does not reflect all possible symptoms requiring emergency care.

# Infectious Period

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# What Is the Infectious Period for COVID-19?

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- **Symptomatic Cases**

- Two calendar days prior to symptom onset until 10 days after symptom onset.

- **Asymptomatic Cases**

- Two calendar days prior to testing (the date of the swabbing was conducted) until 10 days after the date of testing.

# Isolation



# Isolation

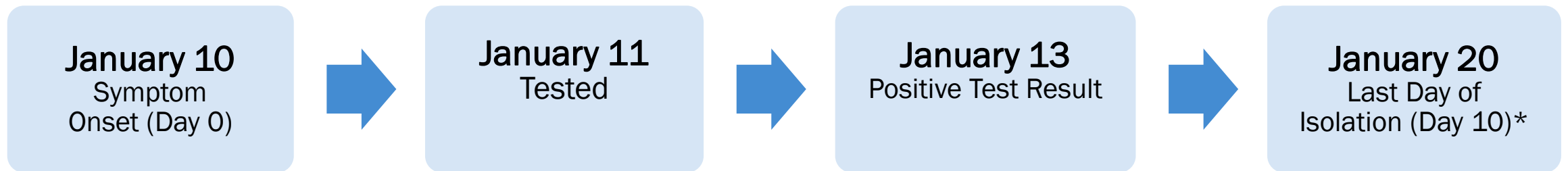
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- **Isolation** is for the ill or infected:
  - Separating individuals who are infected with COVID-19 from others.
  - Stay home and isolate from household members as much as possible.
- Duration of isolation depends on whether the individual is:
  - Symptomatic or asymptomatic
  - Immunocompromised

# Isolation for Symptomatic Individuals

## Symptomatic

- At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared (20 days if severely immunocompromised); and
- At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication; and
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving.
  - Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation.



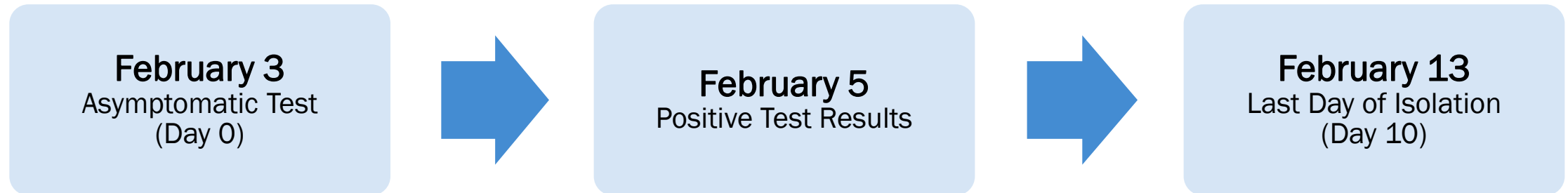
\*Assuming that symptomatic criteria are met.



# Isolation for Asymptomatic Individuals

## Asymptomatic

- 10 days from the date of individual was tested (20 days if severely immunocompromised).
- If symptoms develop during isolation, follow guidance for isolation for symptomatic individuals on Slide 23.



# Quarantine



# Quarantine

Updated

- **Quarantine** is for unvaccinated individuals who had known close contact to a case or unvaccinated individuals returning from international travel or domestic travel to an area with high community spread.
  - Quarantine keeps someone who may have been exposed to the virus away from others.
  - These individuals must stay home and monitor for symptoms.
  - Last date of exposure is Day 0.

# Three Quarantine Options

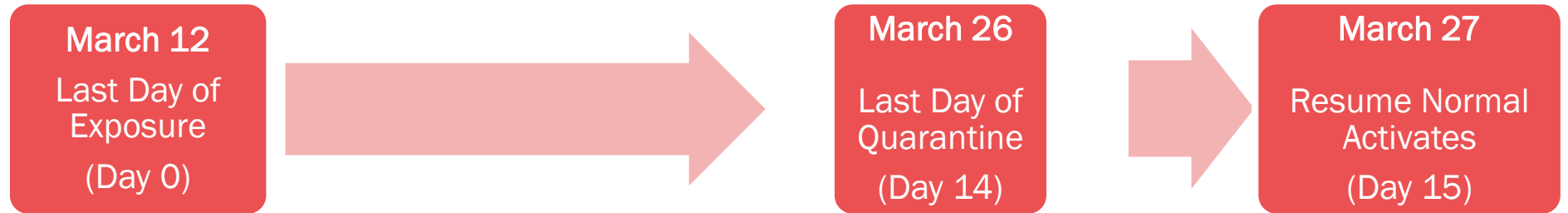
Updated

- **14-days** from the last day they were in contact with the infected individual. Safest protocol.
- **10 days** from the last day they were in contact with the infected individual. Continue to watch for symptoms through day 14.
- **7 days** from the last day they were in contact with the infected individual **if they get a negative test (PCR or antigen test) on day 5 or later.** Continue to watch for symptoms through day 14.

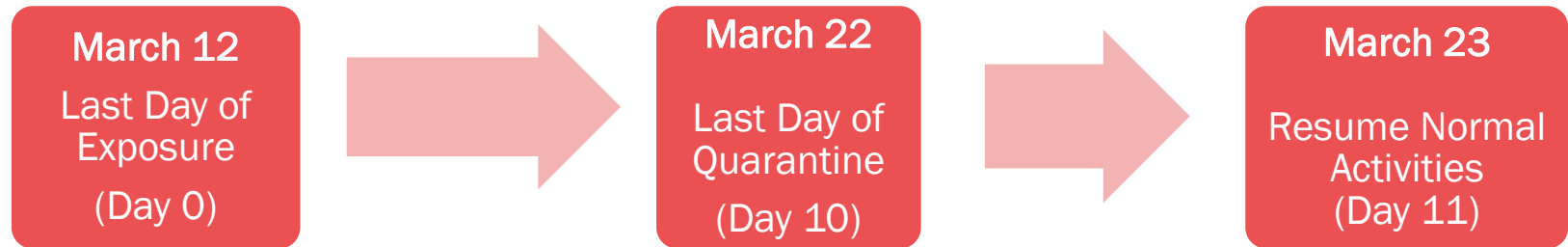
# Calculating Quarantine Options

Updated

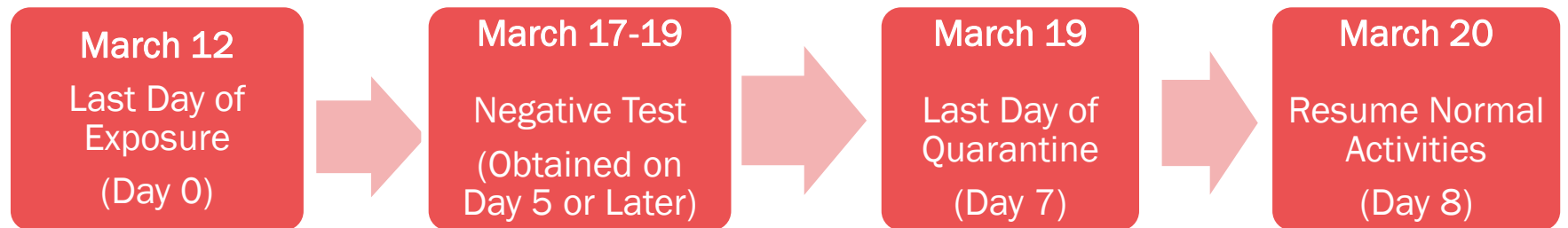
- **14 Day Quarantine Option**



- **10 Day Quarantine Option**

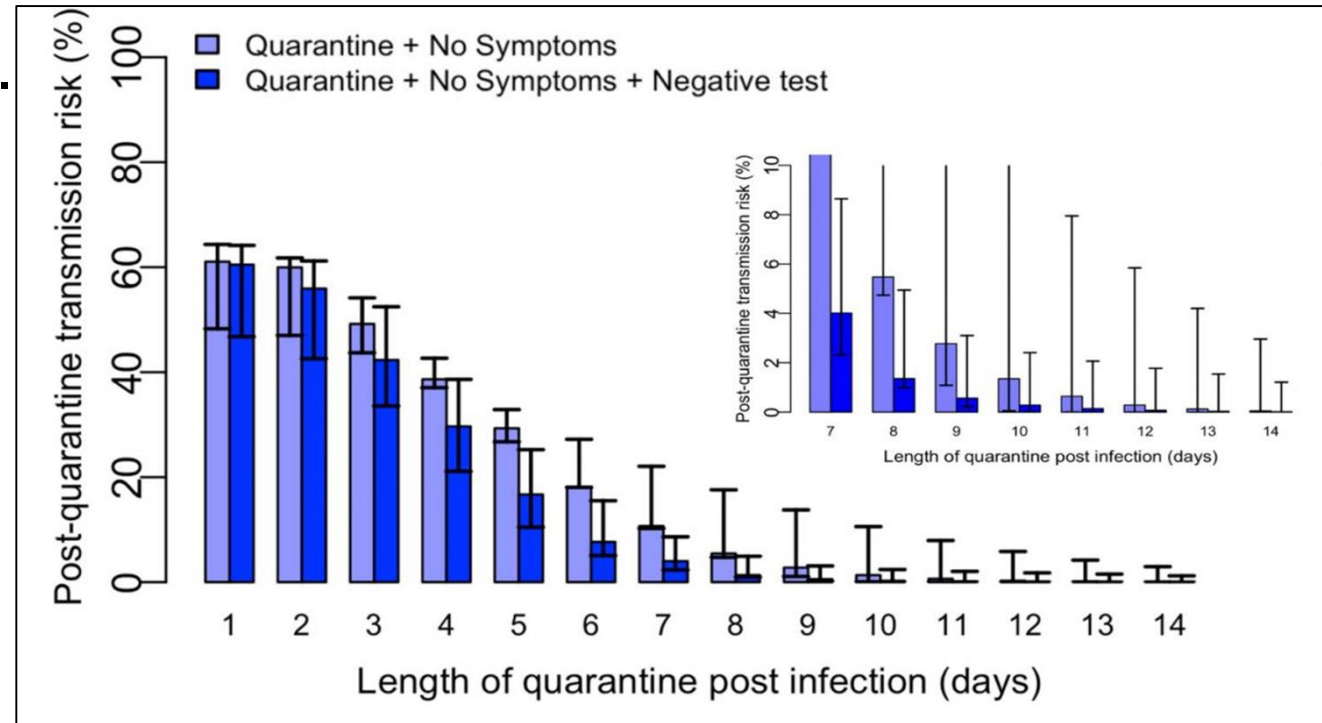


- **7 Day with Negative Test Quarantine Option**



# CDC Rationale for Shortened Quarantine Options

- **10-Day Quarantine without testing**
  - The post-quarantine transmission risk is approximately 1% (upper limit of 10%).
  - A negative test result at day 10 reduces the risk to approximately 0.3%.
- **Seven-Day Quarantine with negative test result on day 5**
  - The post-quarantine transmission risk is approximately 5%, (upper limit of about 12%).



# Which Quarantine Option to Pick?

- [Executive Order issued by the Governor](#) allows for three quarantine options for close contacts of a person with COVID-19:
  - 14-day quarantine;
  - 10-day quarantine (monitoring for symptoms through 14 days); or
  - Seven-day quarantine with negative test result (antigen or PCR) on day 5 or later (monitoring for symptoms through 14 days).
- RIDOH does not dictate which options **schools/districts should** choose to implement.
- RIDOH does encourage schools to inform their community which option they have chosen to implement.

**NOTE:** The CDC continues to endorse 14-day quarantine as the safest protocol but has released new data and information to allow local public health officials to modify policies based on local conditions and needs. Learn more at

# School Quarantine Policies

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- How can schools communicate to families why they chose to enforce the quarantine option they selected?
  - RIDOH playbook includes recommendations and guidance.
  - Shorter quarantine policies for close contacts and travelers come with increased risk.
  - Schools have discretion to implement more stringent policies.
  - Schools can determine the risk-benefit assessment that is best for their school community.



# Calculating Quarantine Duration Options

- Need help determining end of quarantine dates?
- RIDOH has created a [COVID-19 Close Contact Quarantine Calculator](#)
  - Click link above, and scroll down to the middle of the page to download the calculator

## What to do if you or a close contact has COVID-19

- Learn about Rhode Island's close contact quarantine requirements.

[Requirements](#) [FAQ](#)

- To calculate the length of quarantine for close contacts, use this [COVID-19 Close Contact Quarantine Calculator](#).

# Quarantine Questions

## For Individuals who are not Fully Vaccinated

Updated

- Do contacts of contacts need to quarantine?
  - No. Only close contacts of the person who was infectious need to quarantine.
- If I get tested during quarantine and I have a negative result, does my quarantine end?
  - Yes. If you get tested on day 5 or later (with either an antigen or PCR test), your last day of quarantine will be Day 7. You can resume normal activities on day 8 and continue to monitor for symptoms through day 14.
  - If you get tested earlier than day 5 you cannot end quarantine after day 7.
- If I am not on quarantine and I want to go for asymptomatic testing, do I need to quarantine while I wait for results?
  - No. If you are asymptomatic and get tested, you do NOT need to quarantine while results are pending.

# Quarantine Questions

## For Individuals who are not Fully Vaccinated

Updated

- If I get tested during quarantine and I'm positive, how long do I need to stay home?
  - If an individual on quarantine tests positive for COVID-19, the person must isolate for 10 days from symptom onset or 10 days from the date of the specimen collection if the person is asymptomatic.
- When do close contacts of a probable case need to stay home?
  - Only unvaccinated household contacts of a probable case should stay home while tests results are pending because of the increased exposure they have in the home environment.

# School-Specific Quarantine Questions

## For Individuals who are not Fully Vaccinated

- Can I require my staff to quarantine for more than seven days even if they get a negative result from a test taken at least five days after the close contact?
  - Yes, employers may require employees to quarantine for longer than the shortest quarantine option in the Executive Order.
- Can I offer a shorter quarantine period for my staff but require students to wait for 10 days before returning to childcare?
  - Yes, you can have different policies for students and staff.

# Travel and Quarantine

# Quarantine—Unvaccinated International Travelers

Updated

- [Executive Order](#) updated by the Governor on May 21, 2021.
- What are the quarantine options for any person arriving from a location **outside the United States and U.S. territories?**
  - **Option 1:** Must immediately quarantine for ten days upon arrival in the US.
    - Must continue to watch for symptoms through day 14 after arrival in the US.
  - **Option 2:** May shorten quarantine to seven days if they have a negative result from a test (PCR or antigen) taken at least five days after arrival in the US.
    - Must continue to watch for symptoms through day 14 after arrival in the US.

**NOTE:** The CDC continues to endorse 14-day quarantine as the safest protocol but has released new data and information to allow local public health officials to modify policies based on local conditions and needs. Learn more

# Quarantine—International Travelers (Continued)

Updated

If you arrive from international travel, you do not need to quarantine if

- You have been infected with COVID-19 in the past 90 days; or
- You are fully vaccinated (14 days after the last dose of the series):
  - Fully vaccinated individuals are encouraged to be tested between day 5 and 10 after return, and should monitor for symptoms for 14 days.

# Quarantine—Unvaccinated Domestic Travelers

Updated

- What are the quarantine options for any person coming to Rhode Island for a non-work-related purpose from locations with a high community spread rate as set forth on a list maintained by RIDOH at <https://covid.ri.gov/> ([click for the list of states](#))
  - Must immediately quarantine for 10 days upon arrival in Rhode Island or until they get a negative test (PCR or Antigen) result.
  - This does NOT apply to any individual who has had a negative result from a COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours prior to arrival in Rhode Island.

**NOTE:** The CDC continues to endorse 14-day quarantine as the safest protocol but has released new data and information to allow local public health officials to modify policies based on local conditions and needs. Learn more at



# Quarantine—Unvaccinated Domestic Travelers (Continued)

- What date should I use to know if I visited a hot spot within the 50 states or DC? When I arrive in that state or when I return to Rhode Island?
  - If the state that you traveled from is on the list at the time you arrive in Rhode Island, you must quarantine.
  - [RIDOH keeps an up-to-date list of states](#) which have high community spread of COVID-19.

# Quarantine—Unvaccinated Domestic Travelers (Continued)

- If you arrived from a hot spot within the 50 states or DC, you do not have to quarantine if:
  - You're traveling for work;
  - You're a public health, public safety, or healthcare worker;
  - You're traveling for
    - Medical treatment;
    - To attend a court hearing, a funeral, or memorial services;
    - To get necessities such as groceries, gas, or medication;
    - To drop off or pick up children from care;
    - To work on a boat;

# Quarantine—Domestic Travelers (Continued)

Updated

If you arrive from a hot spot within the 50 states or DC, you do not need to quarantine if

- You have been infected with COVID-19 in the past 90 days
- You are fully vaccinated (14 days after the last dose of the series):
  - Fully vaccinated individuals are encouraged to be tested between day 5 and 10 after return, and should monitor for symptoms for 14 days

# Quarantine and Travel—More Scenarios

Updated

- Puerto Rico and other islands and territories
  - The Executive Order issued on May 7 states that U.S. territories should follow the domestic travel guidance.
- Skiing in [states with >5% positivity](#)
  - Must quarantine per domestic travel requirements.
- Travel abroad: Tests positive while abroad and completes isolation while away
  - No quarantine. Schools may request documentation.
- Tested positive, recovered, and then travels to Florida within 90 days
  - No quarantine. Schools may request documentation.

# Quarantine and Travel FAQs for Unvaccinated Individual

Updated

- A family who is not fully vaccinated went from their home in Rhode Island to their home in a high incidence state for the long weekend. They did not go out anywhere or see anyone while in the high incidence state. Do they have to quarantine?
  - No. Since they went from house to house and had no exposure to people or places in the high incidence state, they do not need to follow quarantine guidance.
- A family went from their home in Rhode Island to their home in a high incidence state for the long weekend. They went skiing while in high incidence state. Do they have to quarantine?
  - Yes. Since they went skiing and had potential exposures while at the ski resort they do need to follow the quarantine guidance.

# Quarantine and Travel FAQs for Unvaccinated Individuals

## (Continued)

- A family is divorced and has a parent/guardian in another state. Does this unvaccinated child need to quarantine after visiting the parent/guardian in another state if it is a state with a high incidence of COVID-19?
  - No. The parent/guardian's home in another state is considered a second household and the child does not need to quarantine. (Similar concept to people who live across state lines but commute to work or school in Rhode Island.)

# Isolation and Quarantine for Household Members

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# Isolation Within the Household

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- A person in isolation is considered separated from others while in isolation within the household if
  - The isolated person remains in the household but stays in their own bedroom at all times and uses their own bathroom without sharing any common areas with others in the household.
  - The isolated person remains in the household but on a completely separate floor or living area at all times (e.g., separate apartment within the house).
  - Either the isolated person or the other household members temporarily move out of the household while the case is in isolation.



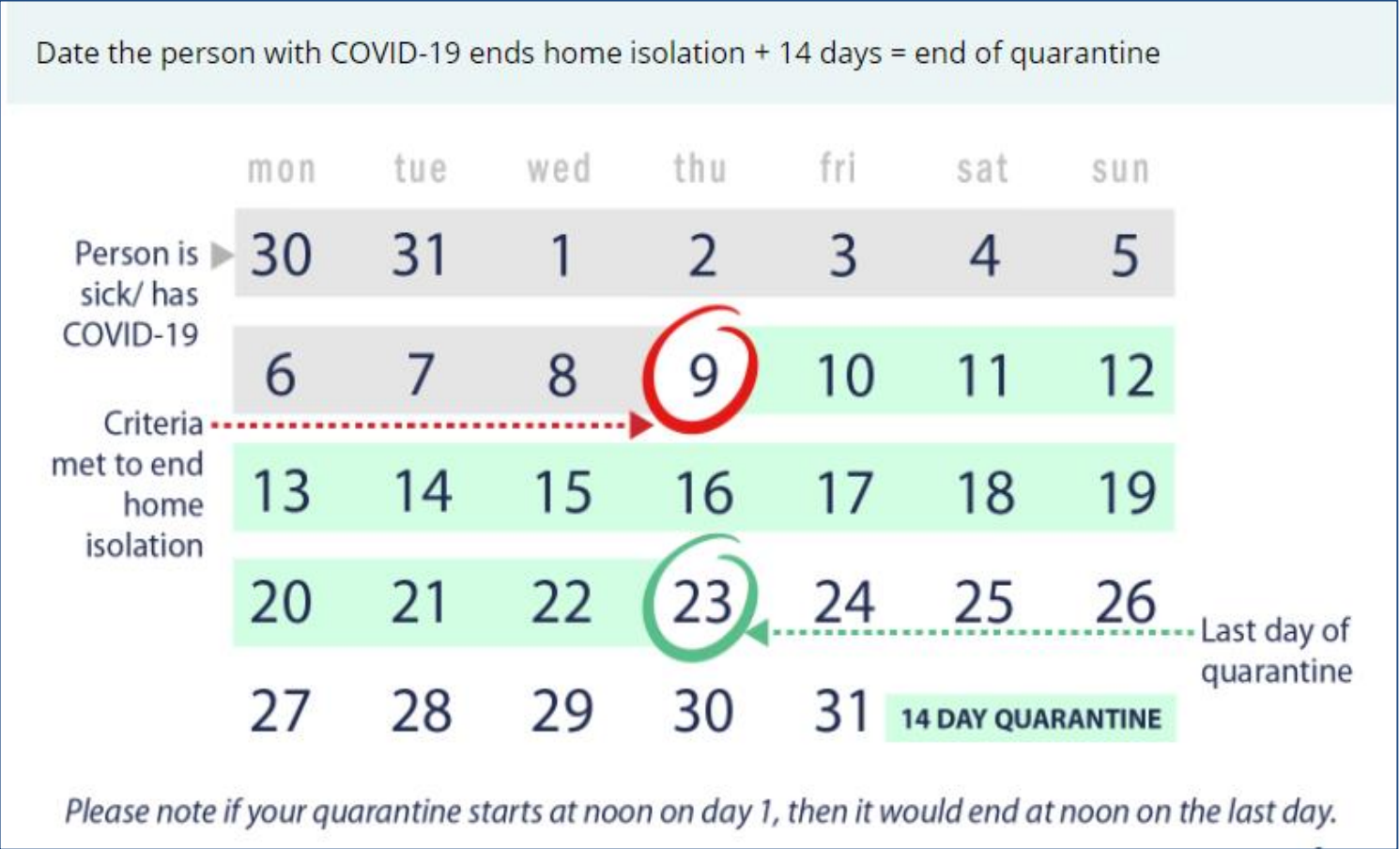
# Quarantine for Unvaccinated Household Members Who CANNOT Separate from a Person in Isolation Within the Household

Updated

- Household members need to quarantine while the infected individual is in isolation (until 10 days after symptom onset or swab date if asymptomatic) and then start their own quarantine.
  - Last day of isolation for the case is Day 0 for the household members.
  - Household members have three options starting on Day 0:
    - **Option 1:** 14 days (total of 24 days in quarantine—released on day 25);
    - **Option 2:** 10-day (total of 20 days in quarantine—released on day 21); or
    - **Option 3:** Seven-day with a negative test result on day 5 or later (total of 17 days in quarantine—released on day 18).

# Quarantine End Dates for Household Members who Cannot Separate

## Last Date of Quarantine for Each Option Based on the Sample Calendar



- **14-day Quarantine**
  - Last day is Thursday, the 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- **10-day Quarantine**
  - Last day is Saturday, the 19<sup>th</sup>.
- **7-day Quarantine**
  - Test on Tuesday, the 14<sup>th</sup>, or later.
  - If the test result is negative, then the last day is Thursday, the 16<sup>th</sup>.

# Quarantine for Unvaccinated Household Members Who CAN Separate from a Person in Isolation within the Household

Updated

- Household members would start their quarantine from the date of last exposure to the infected household member (called “Day 0”).
- Day 0 is the last day that household members and the infected household member shared living space;
  - Spent time together in the same rooms;
  - Were in close contact (closer than six feet for more than 15 minutes during 24 hours).
- Household members have three options for quarantine starting on Day 0:
  - **Option 1:** 14 days (released on day 15);
  - **Option 2:** 10 days (released on day 11); or
  - **Option 3:** Seven days with a negative test result on day 5 or later (released on day 8).

# Quarantine of Household Contacts with Ongoing Exposure

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- If a household member has completed 10 days of isolation but still has symptoms, can I start my quarantine or do I need to wait until symptoms are completely gone?
  - As long as the case has been fever-free without fever-reducing medication for 24-hours and there has been an improvement in symptoms, the household members can begin their quarantine.
  - If symptoms have not yet improved, household members need to wait to begin their quarantine.

# Determining Close Contacts

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# How Is a Close Contact Defined?

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- **Close contact**

- Individual who has been within six feet of an infected person (with or without a face mask) for a cumulative 15 minutes over a 24-hour period during the infectious period:
  - i.e., Two 10-minute interactions during the day.
- Individual who has had unprotected direct contact with secretions or excretions of a person with confirmed COVID-19 during the infectious period:
  - i.e., Infected person coughed directly in someone's face.

# Close Contacts in Sports

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- **Physical closeness of players**
  - When playing most team sports, 6 ft distance cannot be maintained
  - Athletes often have face to face contact with other players
- **Level of intensity of activity**
  - Activities that are high intensity or require a high level of exertion (such as full competition) present a higher level of risk of getting and spreading COVID-19

**Proximity + Intensity = Increased Risk of Respiratory Droplets Transmission**



**(Close Contact without meeting the 15-minute mark)**

# Testing of ALL Close Contacts

Updated

RIDOH recommends ALL close contacts of people with COVID-19 get tested (with an antigen or PCR test) on day 5 of quarantine or later.

- Individuals may also be tested as soon as notified of being a close contact and then again on or after five days post close contact.
- This will assist in detecting asymptomatic infection and isolating quickly to prevent further spread.



# How to Determine Close Contacts in Schools

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- Settings where physical distancing can be maintained or determined
  - Classrooms with assigned seats; and
  - Buses with assigned seats and controlled entry/exit.
- Settings where physical distancing cannot be maintained or determined
  - Childcare and classrooms with stable groups without physical distancing;
  - K-12 classrooms without physical distancing or assigned seats; and
  - Sports teams.

# Questions About Close Contacts in School

- If we are notified of a positive case during the school day, do we need to send the close contacts home immediately?
  - It is always preferable to quarantine close contacts as soon as possible. However, if it is not feasible to send the student home immediately, a close contact can remain in school, follow the normal dismissal process, and begin their quarantine when they get home.

# Questions About Close Contacts in School

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- What do we do if a close contact comes to school because he/she has not yet been quarantined by RIDOH?
  - Schools can send the student home.
  - Schools can inform staff/students that they have been identified as a close contact and should stay home in accordance with RIDOH guidance.

# Can Schools Determine Who is a Close Contact?

- Yes. In collaboration with RIDOH, schools can identify close contacts in two ways:
  - Option 1
    - Follow protocol outlined by RIDOH on how to identify close contacts;
    - Call RIDOH for a consult; and
    - Add the identified close contacts to the excel spreadsheet and submit to RIDOH.
  - Option 2
    - Send RIDOH seating charts, class rosters, bus charts, teacher phone numbers, etc.;
    - RIDOH will complete investigation to identify close contacts.
      - NOTE: If case counts are high, RIDOH may not have time to conduct an analysis of close contacts and may quarantine all students/staff on the rosters submitted.

# Can Schools Quarantine Close Contacts?

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- **Yes.** Under the Governor's Executive Order, schools can notify all close contacts and ask them to quarantine according to the RIDOH guidance.
  - Close contacts may also be contacted by RIDOH.
- School leaders also have the authority to:
  - Ask students/staff to stay home while RIDOH completes the case investigation;
  - Shift a class or grade to distance learning; and
  - Inform students/staff that RIDOH may reach out to close contacts to provide quarantine guidance.

# Testing of Close Contacts

- **Is testing on day 5 of quarantine or later required?**
  - No. Testing on day 5 of quarantine or later is recommended but not required. However, in some outbreak situations, close contacts may be required to get tested before returning to school.
- **Is there an alternative to testing if schools require testing to return to school?**
  - The alternative to testing on day 5 of quarantine or later is to remain in quarantine for an additional 10 days to ensure that someone who may have become infected on day 14 of quarantine is not infected when they are released from quarantine.

# Testing of Close Contacts (Continued)

- **Why is RIDOH recommending testing for some students who were never on quarantine?**
  - In an outbreak situation involving many cases and many close contacts within a large group of students/staff (e.g., classroom, grade, wing of a school, or sports team) or when there is increasing community or statewide spread of COVID-19, RIDOH may recommend testing for the entire classroom or group due to the possibility of asymptomatic transmission.
- **What if the school requires testing before close contacts can return to school, and an individual is refusing testing?**
  - That individual can remain out of school for an additional 10 days after the original release from quarantine date to ensure that they are not asymptomatic and infected and when they return to school.

# COVID-19 Vaccination





# COVID-19 Vaccine Quick Tips

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- The COVID-19 vaccine is safe, highly effective against serious illness, and may prevent you from being infected with COVID-19.
- A person cannot get COVID-19 from COVID-19 vaccines.
- Because there still may be a small chance you can become infected and spread the virus to others, once you've gotten any COVID-19 vaccine, please continue to wear your mask, wash your hands, and watch your distance after being vaccinated.
- Please visit the Rhode Island Department of Health website for other Frequently Asked Questions about the Vaccine: [COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs | RI COVID-19 Information Portal](#)

# COVID-19 Immunity

- **When does a person have immunity after vaccination?**
  - After vaccination for COVID-19, it takes 14 days after the final recommended dose to have vaccine immunity.
  - We won't know how long immunity lasts after vaccination until we have more data on how well COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions.
- **How long does a person have immunity after infection COVID-19?**
  - Current evidence suggests that getting the virus again (reinfection) is uncommon in the 90 days after the first infection with the virus that causes COVID-19.
  - The protection someone gains from having an infection (called “natural immunity”) varies depending on the disease, and it varies from person to person. Because this virus is new, we don't know if natural immunity might last longer than 90 days in certain individuals.

# Quarantine Exemption for Fully Vaccinated Persons

If a person is fully vaccinated (meaning it's been 14 or more days since the last recommended dose in the vaccine series) and remains asymptomatic, they do not need to

- Quarantine if identified as a close contact to a case (even if the close contact is a household member); or
- Quarantine after travel.
- RIDOH strongly encourages fully vaccinated people to get tested after close contact or travel and monitor symptoms for 14 days.

# I Got Vaccinated for COVID-19 and Now I Have Symptoms. What do I do?

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- People are likely to experience symptoms after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. This means the immune system is working. This is healthy, normal, and expected.
  - You may experience a sore arm, headache, fever, or body aches, but they should go away in a few days.
  - If you have any symptoms of COVID-19 following vaccination, stay home, call a health care provider, and get tested.

# I Am Fully Vaccinated and Symptomatic. What should I do?

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- If you have symptoms of COVID-19, even if you are vaccinated, stay home and get a PCR test.
- If your PCR test is negative, you can return to work when you are fever-free for 24 hours.

# Can I get Vaccinated While on Isolation?

I'm scheduled to get vaccinated but I'm on isolation. Can I leave isolation to go to my vaccination appointment?

- No. You cannot get your vaccination shot (dose one or dose two) while on isolation, even if you are asymptomatic.
- You must **reschedule your appointment** for a time after you have completed isolation.

# Can I get Vaccinated While on Quarantine?

- I'm scheduled to get vaccinated but I'm on quarantine. Can I leave quarantine to go to my vaccination appointment?
  - No. You cannot get your vaccination shot (dose 1 or dose 2) while on quarantine.
  - You must **reschedule your appointment** for a time after you are done with quarantine.
- Do I have to complete 14 days of quarantine before I can get vaccinated?
  - You have to complete quarantine before you can get vaccinated. The number of days depends upon which of the three quarantine options you are using (e.g., 14 days, 10 days, or seven days with a negative test result). Once you are released from quarantine, then you can get vaccinated.

# I Missed My Second Dose of Vaccine. . .

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- I received a COVID-19 vaccine that requires two doses, and I missed my appointment for the second dose. What should I do?
  - The second dose of the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines may be scheduled for administration up to six weeks (42 days) after the first dose.
  - Despite lack of efficacy data, when unavoidable delays occur, the second dose may be administered beyond the six-week window and there is no need to restart the series.



# Do I need to participate in asymptomatic testing if I'm fully vaccinated?

New

- If I am fully vaccinated (14 days after the last dose of vaccine), do I need to participate in asymptomatic testing?
  - No, CDC recommends fully vaccinated people be exempted from cyclical surveillance testing when feasible.
  - [Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People | CDC](#)

# Exemptions for Fully Vaccinated Individuals

Updated

	<b>After COVID-19 <b>vaccination</b>:</b> <b>Presumed immunity 14 days after last vaccine dose</b>
<b>Quarantine for close contacts</b>	Exempt.  Test on Day 5-10 after exposure.  Monitor for symptoms for 14 days after exposure.
<b>Quarantine for travel, domestic or international</b>	Exempt.  Test on Day 5-10 after travel.  Monitor for symptoms for 14 days after return from travel.
<b>Asymptomatic testing</b>	Not recommended but allowed
<b>Eligible populations</b>	Vaccinated hospital patients and long-term care residents must quarantine.

# Previously Infected With COVID-19

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# Quarantine Exemption for Persons Previously Infected with COVID-19

- If a person has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they **do not need to:**
  - Quarantine if identified as a close contact to a case (even if the close contact is a household member);
  - Quarantine after travel; or
  - Participate in asymptomatic screening testing for sports or school. They are exempt from such testing.
- **90-day calculation**
  - If symptomatic, then start the 90-day count from the day of symptom onset (Day 0).
  - If asymptomatic, then start the 90-day count from the day of specimen collection (Day 0).

# Quarantine Exemption if Positive for COVID-19 within 90 Days

	<b>After COVID-19 infection:</b> <b>Presumed immunity for 90 days after infection</b>
<b>Quarantine for close contacts</b>	Exempt. Monitor for symptoms for 14 days after exposure.
<b>Quarantine for travel, domestic or international</b>	Exempt. Monitor for symptoms for 14 days after exposure/travel.
<b>Asymptomatic testing</b>	Not recommended within 90 days of infection.
<b>Eligible populations</b>	All individuals.

# Previously Ill with COVID-19-like Symptoms but Not Tested

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- **Scenario:** An individual was previously ill with symptoms like COVID-19 but not tested. Household members were positive. When getting tested for sports, the individual tested positive but stated it was from past infection.
  - Does this individual need to isolate now since there is no record of a positive test result or a probable report to the school nurse?
  - Assessed on a case-by-case basis in consultation with RIDOH.
- **Avoid this situation by getting tested when you have symptoms of COVID-19.**

# Symptomatic Within 90 Days of Testing Positive for COVID-19

- For persons who develop **new symptoms consistent with COVID-19** within 90 days after COVID-19 infection, get a medical evaluation by a health care provider who can:
  - Evaluate for other possible diagnoses; and
  - Evaluate for possible exposure to COVID-19 in the past 14 days (e.g., travel, large gatherings or events, household or other close contacts with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, occupational risk/healthcare workers, public safety, recent workplace cases).
- If no other plausible diagnosis, the recommendations may include treating it as a new COVID-19 infection, isolating the symptomatic person, and quarantining close contacts.

# Protocols for Schools





# Clearance Protocols for Children and Staff Members to Return to Class

Symptom	Will be Tested?*
Cough (new)	Yes
Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	Yes
New loss of taste or smell	Yes
Fever (temperature higher than 100.4° or feels feverish to the touch) or chills	Yes, if two or more of these symptoms  No, if only one of these symptoms
Muscle or body aches	
Headache	
Sore throat	
Fatigue	
Congestion or runny nose (new)	
Nausea or vomiting	
Diarrhea	

\*If the PCR test result is negative, a person can return when fever free for 24 hours and symptoms improved (back to usual health). If the rapid or PCR test result is positive, a person must isolate and can return when CDC guidance for release from isolation is met.

# Protocol- Symptomatic Individual but Not a Probable Case

Situation	Isolation and quarantine protocol	Recommended testing protocol	Requirement to return
Staff or student has a SINGLE symptom of COVID-19 but <u>does not meet the</u> CDC definition of probable case	<p>Symptomatic individual is isolated and sent home.</p> <p>No quarantine recommended for close contacts.</p>	<p>Advise symptomatic individual to seek medical advice and test if recommended by healthcare provider.</p> <p>Some patients with COVID-19 have presented with only one mild symptom or atypical symptoms and patients or providers may prefer to test even when probable case definition is not met.</p>	<p>Attestation that confirms one of the following (parent/guardian attests if a minor)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Not tested</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Has been fever free for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medication and symptoms improved (back to usual health).</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Tested negative (PCR)</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Has been fever free for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medication and symptoms improved (back to usual health).</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Tested positive (PCR or antigen)</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Has met RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation.</li></ul></li></ul>

# Protocol- Probable Case

Updated

Situation	Isolation and quarantine protocol	Recommended testing protocol	Requirement to return
<b>Staff or student is a probable case</b>	<p>Probable individual is isolated and sent home.</p> <p><u>Unvaccinated</u> household contacts must quarantine pending the probable case COVID-19 test result; school contacts do not.</p>	<p>Advise probable individual to seek medical advice and obtain a COVID-19 diagnostic test.</p> <p><i>RIDOH may recommend testing for others in certain situations.</i></p>	<p>Attestation that confirms one of the following (parent/guardian attests if a minor)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Tested negative (PCR)</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Has been fever free for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medication and symptoms improved (back to usual health).</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Tested positive (PCR or antigen)</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Has met RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation.</li></ul></li></ul>

# Protocol- Confirmed Case (Tested Positive with PCR or Antigen)

Updated

Situation	Isolation and quarantine protocol	Recommended testing protocol	Requirement to return
<b>Staff or student tests positive</b>	<p>Person testing positive is isolated per CDC/RIDOH guidelines</p> <p>Close contacts are quarantined per CDC/RIDOH guidelines</p>	<p>Close contacts in quarantine should self-monitor for symptoms and seek medical advice as needed. RIDOH recommends all close contacts get tested on day 5 of quarantine or later.</p> <p>Close contacts who are fully vaccinated or who have tested positive in the past 90 days do not have to quarantine.</p>	<p>Individuals must meet the CDC/RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation: <b>RIDOH recommends the symptom-based strategy for ending isolation. Isolate until:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication <b>and</b></li><li>• Symptoms have improved <b>and</b></li><li>• 10 days since symptoms first appeared (20 days if severely immunocompromised)</li></ul> <p><b>OR time-based approach if asymptomatic when tested positive. Isolate until:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 10 days since date of specimen collection (20 days if severely immunocompromised)</li></ul>

# Protocol- Close Contact of a Case

Updated

Situation	Isolation and quarantine protocol	Recommended testing protocol	Requirement to return
<p><b>Staff or student is a close contact of a confirmed case</b></p> <p>Close contacts who have tested positive in the past 90 days do not need to quarantine</p>	<p>A close contact is quarantined per CDC/RIDOH guidelines</p> <p>If the close contact <u>is not fully vaccinated</u> and remains in the same household as the case, the contact must quarantine during the case's isolation period (10 days) and then quarantine per CDC/RIDOH guidelines.</p>	<p>Close contacts in quarantine should self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days from last exposure and seek medical advice as needed.</p> <p>RIDOH recommends all unvaccinated close contacts get tested on day 5 of quarantine or later.</p>	<p>A close contact must meet the CDC/RIDOH guidelines for ending quarantine before returning to school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Remain asymptomatic</li><li>• Complete one of the quarantine options:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 14 days</li><li>• 10 days</li><li>• 7 days with a negative test (antigen or PCR) on day 5 or later</li></ul></li><li>• If choosing a 10 day or 7-day quarantine, continue to monitor for symptoms for 14 days from last exposure</li></ul>

# Protocol Summary

	Symptomatic (not probable case)	Probable Case	Person Tests Positive with PCR or Antigen Test	Person Tests Negative with a PCR Test
Isolation and Quarantine Guidance	Isolate. Medical advice. Test encouraged. If not tested/tests neg <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fever free for 24 hours; and</li> <li>Symptoms improved (back to usual health).</li> </ul>	Isolate. Medical advice. Test required (PCR or antigen).	Isolate for 10 days from symptom onset or 10 days from test if asymptomatic; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fever free 24 hours; and</li> <li>Symptoms improved (back to usual health).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fever free 24 hours; and</li> <li>Symptoms improved (back to usual health).</li> </ul>
Return to school	Parent/guardian attestation.	Parent/guardian attestation <b>with</b> test result.	Parent/guardian attestation.	Parent/guardian attestation.
Close Contacts	No action.	No action for school close contacts while waiting for test result.	Follow RIDOH guidance for isolation.	No action.

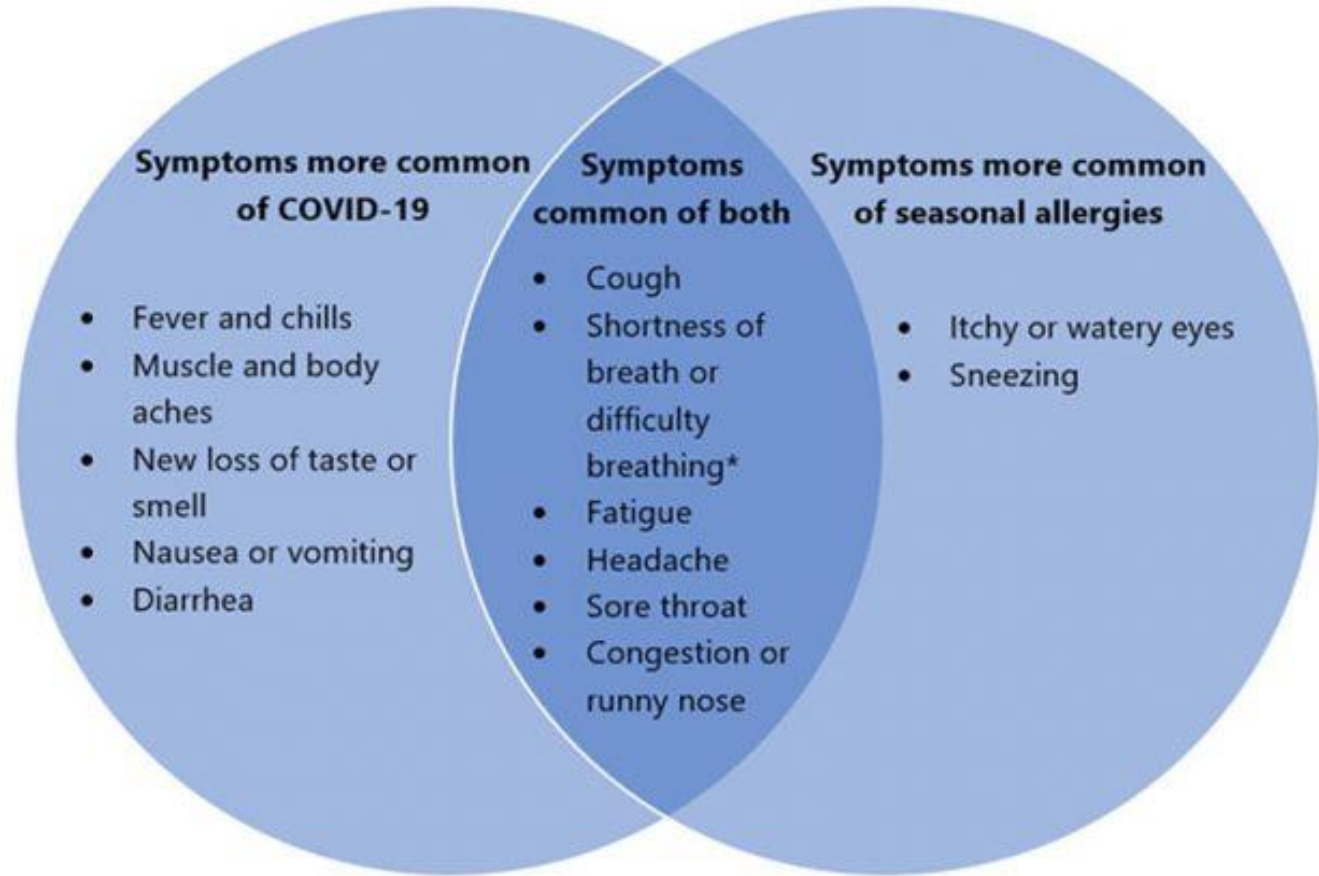
# COVID-19 and Allergies

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# COVID-19 and Allergies

When you have new onset of ANY symptom, assume it's COVID-19 not allergies:

- Stay home
- Get tested
- Spare your contacts from quarantine





# COVID and Allergies, Asthma, or Chronic Health Problems

If you have new onset of ANY COVID-19 symptom, stay home and get tested:

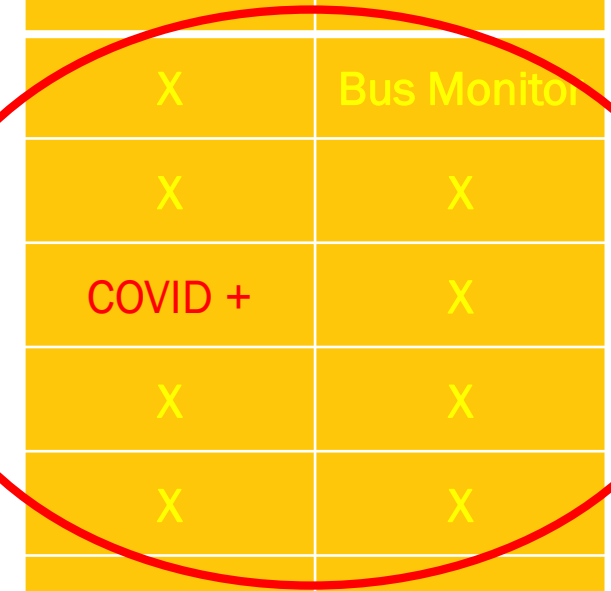
- If the test result is negative and **symptoms are consistent with allergies**, then the individual may return to school/sports after being fever-free for 24 hours.
  - If symptoms are a result of allergies, they may last as long as the allergen (i.e. pollen) is present. This may be for weeks or longer. The child may attend school/sports as long as there is no fever, no new symptoms of COVID-19, and no sudden change of symptoms.
- If there is any **new additional COVID-19 symptom or sudden change or worsening** of runny nose or nasal congestion, then
  - Dismiss home;
  - Seek medical advice; and
  - Get tested, as required to return to school/sports.

# Bus Guidance



# Bus Quarantine Guidance—Student Tests Positive

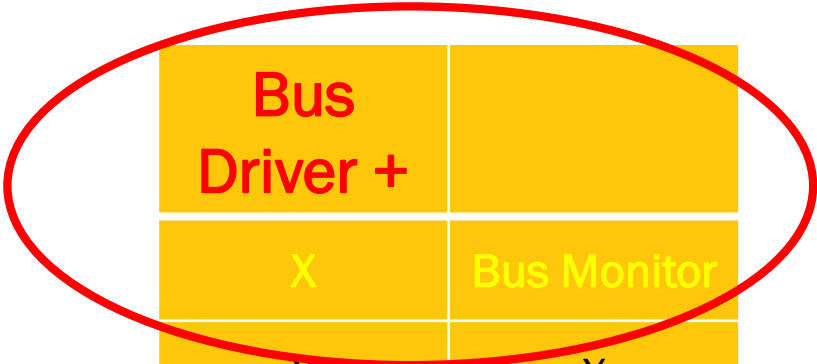
- What happens if a student on bus tests positive for COVID-19?
  - Close contacts are those who sat in the same row or within two rows of the infected person. Quarantine is for those who sat
    - Two rows in front;
    - Two rows behind; and
    - The same five rows on opposite side of the aisle.
  - If it is a small bus, then call RIDOH for consult.
  - If the ride is fewer than 15 minutes, evaluate on a case-by-case basis:
    - May have close contact getting on/off the bus.
    - May be a long ride that day because of traffic or an accident.



Bus Driver	
X	Bus Monitor
X	X
COVID +	X
X	X
X	X
X	X
X	X

# Bus Quarantine Guidance—Driver Tests Positive

- What happens if a bus driver tests positive for COVID-19?
  - Close contacts are those who sat within one row of the driver. Quarantine is for those who sat one row behind on both sides of the aisle.



Bus Driver +	
X	Bus Monitor
X	X
X	X
X	X
X	X
X	X
X	X

# **Case Investigation and Contact Tracing In the K-12 Setting**

# Overview of Case Investigation Process

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- RIDOH receives a positive COVID-19 lab result (PCR or antigen test).
- Case investigator calls the case for an interview:
  - Asks about symptoms, exposures, activities, etc.;
  - Close contacts
    - Person who was within six feet for more than 15 minutes (cumulative within 24 hours) during the infectious period;
    - Infectious period is two days before symptom onset (or if asymptomatic, two days before COVID-19 test).
  - Case Investigator informs the case to isolate.
- Contact Tracer calls close contacts to put them in quarantine and recommend testing.

# Case Investigation—Questions for Schools

Updated

- Case Investigator emails the Superintendent and/or the Principal and School Nurse to
  - Verify the individual's last day in school.
  - Is the child in a stable pod?
    - Are there times when pods mix?
    - List of students and staff in pods.
- Review seating charts for each classroom
  - Names and locations of all students and teachers.
  - Indication of the amount of space in between desks.
  - Note which students and teachers are vaccinated.

# Case Investigation—More Questions for Schools

Updated

- Has anyone else been in the classroom? What is their vaccination status?
  - Substitute teacher
  - Teacher's aide
  - Student teacher
  - Support service provider
- If a staff member, do teachers gather in a shared space\*\*
  - Workroom
  - Breakroom
  - Professional development sessions

\*\*Recommend closing common areas if possible. If not, request staff to avoid eating in or otherwise using these areas when possible.



# Case Investigation—More Questions for Schools

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- Before school care and aftercare
- Sports teams and gym
- Bus or carpool groups
- Lunch
- Recess
- Bathroom groups
- Drop off and dismissal
- Transitions within school

# Things to Keep Updated and Easily Accessible

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- **School Points of Contact**
  - RIDOH will notify the principal/COVID-19 contact and the superintendent
  - Make sure RIDOH has updated contact information for all school points of contact
    - Office numbers
    - Cell phones for weekends/after hours
- Seating charts for classrooms and buses
- Phone numbers for teachers and coaches

# **Rhode Island Interscholastic League Guidance for Sports**

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# Guidance for Keeping Teams Safe

New

- Following masking protocols
- Social distance whenever possible (i.e. spread out on the bench; practice in pods)
- Ask players to screen for symptoms before participating in practice/game. They should not participate if:
  - They have any symptoms of COVID-19 (even if it's only one symptom)
  - They are only mildly ill and they feel well enough to play.
  - They think their symptoms are due to allergies.
- There should be no penalty for missing practice/games if they are not feeling well
- Recommend routine asymptomatic testing

# Sports Come With an Inherent Risk of exposure to COVID-19

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- Parents, students, and coaches should understand the risk
  - Be prepared to quarantine
    - Distance learning for students
    - Parents may miss work if minor is on quarantine
    - Missing other games and events

# Sports Quarantine Protocols- High Contact Sports

- **High Contact Sports** (i.e. soccer, lax, basketball)
  - Team with the case AND opposing team quarantine, except individuals who:
    - Did not attend practice when exposure occurred
    - Are on the opposing team and did not enter the game of play when exposure occurred
    - Had COVID-19 within the last 90 days
    - Have been fully vaccinated

# Sports Quarantine Protocols- Low Contact Sports

- **Low Contact Sports** (i.e. baseball, softball, tennis)
  - Team with the case quarantines, except individuals who:
    - Did not attend practice/game when exposure occurred
    - Had COVID-19 within the last 90 days
    - Has been fully vaccinated
  - Opposing team does NOT quarantine, except:
    - If the infectious athlete played Catcher or First Base, any opponent who had extended time at bat or at first base will be considered a close contact and must quarantine.

# What to Expect as a Coach

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- RIDOH will interview the person who has COVID-19 and obtain the name and contact information for the coach.
- RIDOH will call the coach, state that an individual on the team is positive for COVID and request that the coach:
  - Sends a team roster to RIDOH quickly
  - Notify the team that they need to quarantine while awaiting a call from RIDOH
  - Provide RIDOH with the contact name/phone number of the opposing coach (depending on the situation).



# Sports—Screening

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- **Screening:** All players, staff, coaches, officials, volunteers, and spectators
  - Screened for symptoms related to COVID-19 prior to the beginning of each activity or before entry into an indoor sports facility.
    - This screening should be done in addition to any screening that was conducted at the beginning of the school day
  - Any person exhibiting signs of illness and any person who has been exposed to a person with COVID-19 must be excluded.

# Sports—Testing

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- **Testing prior to playing**
  - If schools require athletes to get tested prior to the beginning of the season, individuals who have had COVID-19 within the last 90 days and those who are fully vaccinated should be exempt:
    - Documentation of a positive COVID-19 test within the last 90 days should be required instead.
  - RIDOH does not recommend testing within 90 days of having COVID-19 because the test result may remain positive for weeks/months after the initial positive test, even though they are no longer contagious.
    - If an individual who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the past 90 days becomes symptomatic, refer to a health care provider for evaluation.

# Sports—Person Awaiting Test Results

- If someone is symptomatic and awaiting test results for COVID-19 or is a close contact awaiting test results to be released from quarantine:
  - Coaches, staff, athletes, officials, and spectators should not attend games, practices, or any related sports activities while waiting for COVID-19 test results if they are symptomatic or if they are a close contact being tested during quarantine.
  - Sports organizations and teams are strongly encouraged to establish strict disciplinary policies to penalize persons who violate this provision.
  - This provision does not apply to coaches, staff, athletes, officials, and spectators who undergo regular asymptomatic testing at their workplace (e.g., employees of congregate care facilities).

# Sports—Masking

Updated

- **Masking**– All unvaccinated individuals must wear masks (no gaiters/bandanas), completely covering the nose and mouth, when indoors.
  - Athletes;
  - Coaches;
  - Officials;
  - Spectators; and
  - Essential/Non-essential staff.
- Masks must be worn in all spaces including, but not limited to,
  - Athletic facility;
  - Training rooms; and
  - Locker rooms.

# Sports—Physical Distancing

Updated

- **Physical distancing**
  - Three feet of physical distancing should be maintained between all players, coaches, and participants during practices and active play when possible.
  - When players, coaches, and participants are not engaged in active play (e.g., on the bench or on the sideline), a physical distance of three feet must be maintained.
  - A minimum of six feet of physical distancing should be maintained between teams and any other individuals or groups within a facility.

# Sports—Quarantine Policy

- Quarantine

- All organizations, leagues, and participants are strongly encouraged to fully cooperate and follow the guidance provided from RIDOH regarding contact tracing and the need to quarantine.
- Organizations and leagues are strongly encouraged to adopt rules regarding the need for all participants to follow RIDOH quarantine guidance.

# Sports—Missing Practice/Games/Tryouts Because Symptomatic

- Athletes must not attend practice, games, or tryouts if they have *any* symptoms of COVID-19- even if the symptom(s) is mild and they feel well enough to play.
  - Athletes will not be penalized for missing tryouts, practices, or games due to COVID-19 symptoms.
  - Tryouts must be extended for symptomatic athletes in accordance with athletic department rules.

# **Case Investigation and Contact Tracing for Sports**

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# Lessons Learned From Fall Sports

- Playing sports comes with risk of exposure to COVID-19 during active play/practice and during team travel and social activities;
- Set expectations;
- Constant Communication;
- Ensure all involved individuals (e.g., athletes, parents, coaches, etc.) understand procedures;
- Maintain consistent and efficient procedures; and
- Do not implement exceptions.
- Encourage vaccination as the best measure to combat COVID-19

# Sports—Testing and Isolation

Updated

- If an unvaccinated person has a positive PCR test result (symptomatic or asymptomatic) or a symptomatic person has a positive BINAX test result, the person is considered infected with COVID-19.
  - That individual should isolate at home until meeting criteria to end isolation based on symptom onset date or test date if asymptomatic.
- RIDOH does not promote the use of the test-based strategy to end isolation (two negative PCR tests at least 24 hours apart).
  - This strategy utilizes state testing resources unnecessarily and may identify some who continue to test positive due to remnant virus particles after they are no longer infectious.

# Sports- Quarantine and Isolation

- RIDOH will
  - Maintain consistent isolation/quarantine practices throughout the season.
    - RIDOH will NOT make exceptions for players to be exempt from isolation/quarantine during championship games.
  - Enforce travel quarantine if the unvaccinated members of the team attends a competition in a state where >5% of COVID-19 tests are positive.
    - RIDOH will NOT waive the quarantine requirement for sporting events or solely because the team did not stay overnight in that state.

# Sports-Close Contact Identification Protocol

- Rhode Island Interscholastic League (RIIL), RIDOH and Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) developed a protocol for high schools and athletic directors to use for close contact identification
  - Athletic directors and principals voted to adopt the protocol.
  - RIDOH will no longer default to quarantining entire athletic teams:
    - Athletic Director/Principal, in consultation with RIDOH, will identify athletes, coaches, and officials that need to quarantine.
  - It is recommended middle schools adopt a similar policy.
- Refer to RIIL website for protocol [riil.org/COVID-19 Info](https://riil.org/COVID-19%20Info)

# Benefits of Close Contact Identification Protocol

- Fewer athletes quarantined;
- More time in school;
- Less disruption to families;
- Improved physical and mental health; and
- More games played.

# Testing for COVID-19

# K-12 COVID-19 Test Scheduling Service

Schedule online at [portal.ri.gov](https://portal.ri.gov) or call 844-857-1814.

- Hours as of February 5
  - Weekdays 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
  - Weekends 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Who Can Be Scheduled for a Test Through This Service?

- Anyone associated with K-12 (students, staff, coaches, etc.) who is
  - Symptomatic; or
  - A close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19; or
  - A classmate of a person who tested positive for COVID-19.



All Tests  
Through State  
Testing Sites  
Are FREE

# How Can I Access Test Results?

- If you were recently tested for COVID-19 in the State of Rhode Island, you can access a record of your test result at [portal.ri.gov/results](https://portal.ri.gov/results).
- What you need to access your test results
  - Name;
  - Date of Birth; and
  - Date of Testing Appointment.
- **NOTE:** You need to include a valid cell phone number or email address when you schedule the appointment in order to access results in the portal.
- The [COVID-19 Test Result Portal User Guide](#) is available if you need assistance.
- \*\*Please note that the EdOC does not have access to individual test results\*\*



# Which Type of Test Is Required in Each Scenario?

Scenario	Type of Negative Test Result Needed
Individual who has symptoms consistent with a probable case of COVID-19 and would like to return to school after illness	PCR (this has not changed)
Unvaccinated close contact shortening quarantine	Antigen Test or PCR
Unvaccinated Traveler shortening quarantine	Antigen Test or PCR

New

# Confirming a Positive Asymptomatic Antigen Test Result

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**RHODE  
ISLAND**

# New Testing Protocol (Updated May 17, 2021)

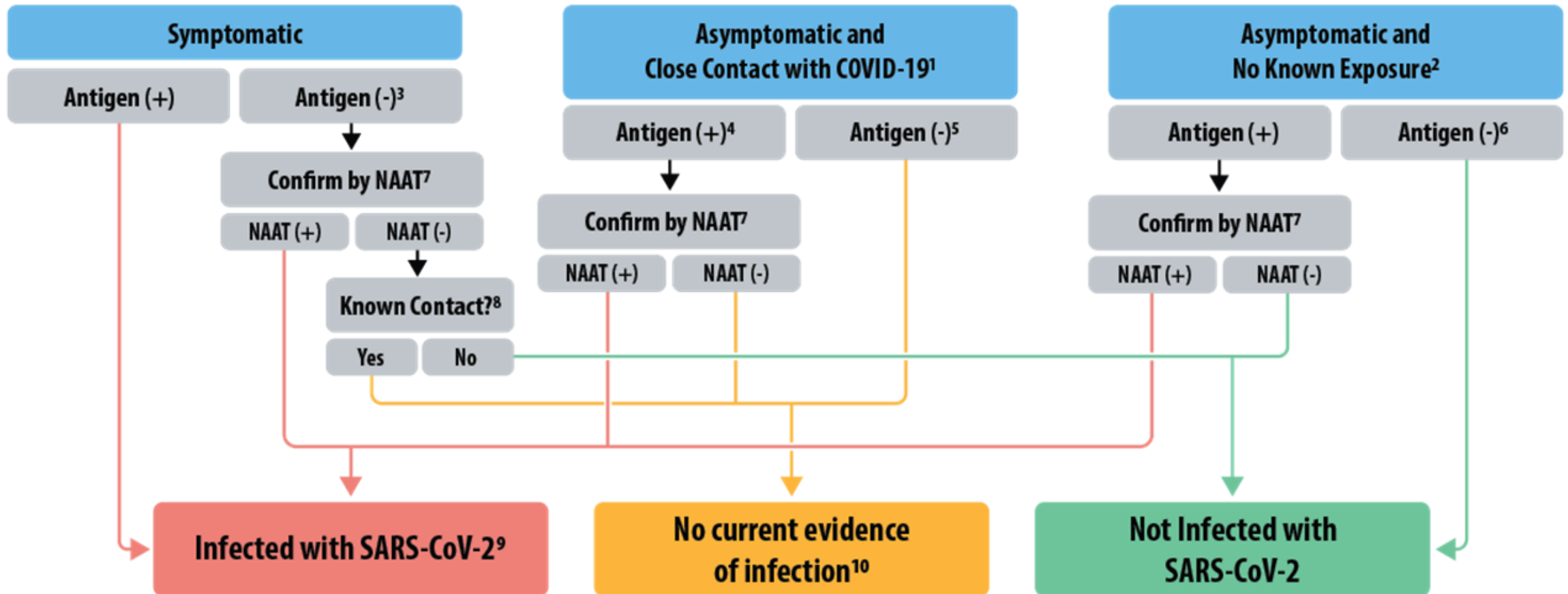
New

**RIDOH has adopted the CDC algorithm which recommends a confirmatory PCR test following all positive antigen test results in asymptomatic people.**

- As the prevalence of COVID-19 in a community decreases, the antigen tests become less reliable.
- For example, there is a greater chance that the positive antigen test could be a “false positive”.

# New Testing Protocol (Updated May 17, 2021)

New



[cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/resources/antigen-tests-guidelines.html](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/resources/antigen-tests-guidelines.html)

# Updated Testing Procedures (Updated May 17, 2021)

- If a child with no symptoms and no known exposure tests positive on an antigen test, such as BinaxNOW, a confirmatory PCR is recommended.
- Schools should:
  - Inform the student's parent/guardian of the positive BinaxNOW result.
  - Recommend that the student obtains a PCR test on the same day.
  - Instruct the student to isolate at home until they receive a PCR test result.
  - NOT start contact tracing at this point as this is not a highly probable case because:
    - PCR results will be back within 24 hours;
    - Transmission in schools is low; and
    - Do not want to recommend over-quarantine because it's better for kids to be in school.

New

# Options for Obtaining a PCR Test

New

1. Schools can provide a Golden Ticket!
  - This allows an individual to go to a K-12 testing site without an appointment to get swabbed.
2. Call the Testing Rapid Response Team to request that someone come to the school to swab the individual before sending the individual home.
3. Establish procedures for conducting PCR testing on-site and call a courier to pick up swab to take to the lab for testing.

# Results of the PCR Test

New

- If the **PCR** result is negative:
  - The asymptomatic person is not considered to be infected with COVID-19;
    - The student will not be considered to have 90 days of immunity to COVID-19.
  - The student may return to school and all other activities; and
  - Contact tracing and quarantining close contacts are not necessary.
- If the **PCR** test is positive OR if no PCR results are received by RIDOH within 72 hours of the antigen test, then:
  - The individual has COVID-19 and should isolate at home per RIDOH instructions; and
  - Contact tracing is necessary and close contacts need to quarantine.

# Reporting Asymptomatic Antigen Positives in Portal

New

When entering results in the portal for an asymptomatic individual with a positive antigen test result, select “Antigen Positive—Pending PCR” for test type.

- Do not select “BINAX” when entering test type, as before.



# Antibody Testing



# Antibody Testing

New

- A positive antibody test result cannot tell you exactly when a person was infected (in the past) with COVID-19 virus or if a person is currently susceptible to COVID-19.
  - Antibody test results cannot be used to exempt a close contact from quarantine.
  - Antibody testing cannot be used to shorten quarantine.
- The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has not authorized the use of antibody tests to diagnose COVID-19 infection or provide proof of immunity.

# Education Operations Center (EdOC)

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# What Is the Education Operations Center?

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- The Education Operations Center (EdOC) is an interagency center located at the Rhode Island Department of Education that bring together expertise from a range of state agencies to collaborate, coordinate, and communicate efficiently.
  - Collaborating partners include
    - Governor's Office;
    - Rhode Island Department of Education;
    - Rhode Island Department of Health;
    - Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth, and Families;
    - Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency;
    - Rhode Island National Guard; and
    - Disaster Medical Assistance Teams.

# What Supports Can the EdOC Provide?

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- Guidance on best practices among schools statewide;
- Health, safety, social, and emotional trainings for all levels of school personnel. PLUs available for participants;
- Personalized, rapid responses via phone, email, or virtual meeting. Phone lines are open 24-hours a day;
- Focused and collaborative problem-solving for your school;
- School based support with the CI/CT process, ventilation, and logistical recommendations;
- Scenario-based feedback through application of current guidance; and
- Questions about school-based testing.

# EdOC Contact Information

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- Email: [EDOC@ride.ri.gov](mailto:EDOC@ride.ri.gov)
- Main line 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.: 401-277-1440
- After hours: 401-451-1907
- Available: 24/7

# Resources for Schools

# Template Letters and Close Contact Template

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- Positive Case letter
  - [English](#)
  - [Portuguese](#)
  - [Spanish](#)
- Positive Case-Past Quarantine Letter
  - [English](#)
  - [Portuguese](#)
  - [Spanish](#)
- [Excel School Close Contact Template](#)



# Guidance for Schools

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- CDC Guidance
  - [Interim Guidance for Case Investigation and Contact Tracing in K-12 Schools](#)
  - [Considerations For Youth Sports Administrators](#)
- Rhode Island Guidance
  - [Rhode Island Phase III youth, adult & school sports guidelines and indoor sports facilities.](#)
  - [Rhode Island Interscholastic League Return to Education-based Athletic Practices and Competitions Season IV \(Spring\) 2020-2021.](#)

# **Additional Resources for Educating Teachers, Parents/Guardians, and Children**

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# Resources for Educating Teachers, Parents/Guardians, and Children

Resource	Source	Overview of contents	Link to access
Talking with children about Coronavirus Disease 2019	CDC	Recommendations to help adults have conversations with children about COVID-19	<a href="https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/talking-with-children.html">cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/talking-with-children.html</a>
Key Messages and Actions for COVID-19 Prevention and Control in Schools, March 2020	UNICEF, WHO	Guidance for operations of education facilities including educational checklists for school administrators, teachers/staff, parents/guardians and students/children	<a href="https://who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/key-messages-and-actions-for-covid-19-prevention-and-control-in-schools-march-2020.pdf?sfvrsn=baf81d52_4">who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/key-messages-and-actions-for-covid-19-prevention-and-control-in-schools-march-2020.pdf?sfvrsn=baf81d52_4</a>
Toolkit for Parents and Teachers	Department of Health Promotion Science, University of Arizona	Teaching resources/information sheets for parents, teachers, administrators and CDC Health Promotion Materials	<a href="https://publichealth.arizona.edu/news/2020/covid-19-communication-toolkit-parents-and-teachers">publichealth.arizona.edu/news/2020/covid-19-communication-toolkit-parents-and-teachers</a>
Communicating with Children During the COVID-19 Outbreak	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services	Guidelines and resources catered to families to promote healthy and comforting conversations between children and parents/guardians	<a href="https://michigan.gov/documents/coronavirus/Talking_with_kids_about_COVID_FINAL_685791_7.pdf">michigan.gov/documents/coronavirus/Talking_with_kids_about_COVID_FINAL_685791_7.pdf</a>

For Reference, RIDOH COVID -19 Unit can be reached at 401-222-8022

# RIDOH and RIDE Resources

Resource	Source	Overview of contents	Link to access
RIDOH COVID-19 Information	Rhode Island Department of Health	General information on COVID-19 in RI	<a href="https://health.ri.gov/covid/">health.ri.gov/covid/</a>
RIDOH COVID-19 Data	Rhode Island Department of Health	Numbers and trends of COVID-19 in RI	<a href="https://ri-department-of-health-covid-19-data-rihealth.hub.arcgis.com/">ri-department-of-health-covid-19-data-rihealth.hub.arcgis.com/</a>
COVID-19 testing in Rhode Island	Rhode Island Department of Health	Who should get tested for COVID-19 and locations for testing throughout RI	<a href="https://health.ri.gov/covid/testing/">health.ri.gov/covid/testing/</a>
DHS COVID-19 Information	Rhode Island Department of Human Services	Professional Development: Re-Opening Child Care/	<a href="https://center-elp.org/center-pd/dhs-mandatory-trainings-to-re-open-child-care-entrenamientos-mandatorios-de-dhs-para-la-reapertura-de-cuidado-infantil/">center-elp.org/center-pd/dhs-mandatory-trainings-to-re-open-child-care-entrenamientos-mandatorios-de-dhs-para-la-reapertura-de-cuidado-infantil/</a>
Re-opening Rhode Island	State of Rhode Island	Guidance for re-opening RI	<a href="https://reopeningri.com">reopeningri.com</a>
Back to School RI: Health and Safety Guidance to Reopen Rhode Island's Elementary and Secondary Schools	State of Rhode Island	Guidance for re-opening schools	<a href="https://ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/COVID19/Back_to_School_RI_Guidance_6.19.20.pdf?ver=2020-06-19-120036-393">ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/COVID19/Back_to_School_RI_Guidance_6.19.20.pdf?ver=2020-06-19-120036-393</a>

# Glossary



# Glossary

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Term	Definition
Close contact	Being within 6 feet of an infected person (with or without a face mask) for a cumulative 15 minutes, over a 24-hour period <b>or</b> having unprotected direct contact with secretions or excretions of a person with confirmed COVID-19 during the infectious period.
Community transmission	Occurs when individuals acquire COVID-19 through contact with someone in their local community, rather than through travel to an affected location.
Confirmed case	A person who has tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection (the virus that causes COVID-19).
Contact tracing	Process of identifying individuals who have had close contact (see definition above) with someone infected with COVID-19.
Consistent/Stable Group	A consistent group of students and staff who interacts with each other but not with members of other groups on a regular basis. Groups should be as small as possible, with maximum numbers outlined in the different reopening scenarios. When in a stable group, each group must physically distance themselves from each other and from other consistent groups.

# Glossary

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## Term

## Definition

COVID-19

Abbreviation for the disease caused by the novel coronavirus SARS CoV-2.

EdOC

Education Operation Center. The Education Operations Center (EdOC) is an interagency center located at the R.I Department of Education that bring together expertise from a range of state agencies to collaborate, coordinate, and communicate efficiently with schools.

Incubation period

The time between exposure to an infection and the appearance of first symptoms. The virus that causes COVID-19 has an incubation period of two-14 days.

Infectious period  
(asymptomatic  
cases)

Two days prior to testing (the date of the swabbing was conducted) until CDC criteria to discontinue isolation are met.

Infectious period  
(symptomatic  
cases)

Two days before symptom onset until CDC criteria to discontinue isolation are met.

# Glossary

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**Term****Definition**

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**Isolation**

Process of separating individuals who are infected with COVID-19 from others. Isolation lasts a minimum of:

- 10 days from symptom onset if symptomatic.
- 10 days from the date of specimen collection (test) is asymptomatic.
- 20 days for individuals with severely immunocompromising conditions.

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**Protocol**

Recommended actions to follow if a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs.

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**Probable case**

Individual who has at least one of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing, new loss of smell or new loss of taste, **OR** at least two of the following symptoms: fever (measured > 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or subjective) or chills (rigors), body aches (myalgia), headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, or congestion or runny nose.

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**Quarantine**

Process of separating and restricting the movement of individuals who were in close contact with someone who tested positive or had symptoms of COVID-19. Persons in quarantine should self-monitor for 14 days for symptoms and seek medical advice as needed. RIDOH recommends all close contacts of people with COVID-19 get tested on day 5 of quarantine or later.



# Glossary

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Term	Definition
RIDE	Rhode Island Department of Education.
RIDOH	Rhode Island Department of Health.
Screening	Assessing individuals for symptoms of COVID-19 verbally or via self/parent attestation. Temperature checks may be performed by the school if desired.
Symptomatic individual	A person who is experiencing one or more of the symptoms of COVID-19 as defined in <a href="#">CDC guidelines</a> .
Testing	Two types of tests are available for COVID-19: viral tests and antibody tests. Viral tests indicate if you have a current infection while antibody tests indicate a previous infection. Throughout this document, 'testing' refers to the viral test to diagnose a person with COVID-19.